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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

PATENT
0020-4925P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Takashi SASAKI et al. Conf.: 7068
Appl. No.: 09/987,469 Group: 3711
Filed: November 14, 2001 Examiner: R. GORDON
For: GOLF BALL

LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 3, 2003

Sir:

Further to the Reply under 37 CFR 1.116 filed October 31, 2003, please find enclosed herewith a Rule 132 Declaration. The Declaration should be made part of the record of the present application.

The Declaration is submitted to support Applicants position that the core deformation of 2.5 to 4.5 mm distinguishes the golf ball of the present invention from the golf ball disclosed in the prior art. Examples 1, 2 and 3 in the Declaration are illustrative of the present invention. Comparative Examples 1 and 2 represent the closest prior art. Comparative Example 1 has a core deformation value of 2.0 which is lower than that of the present invention. Likewise Example 2 has a core deformation value of 5.0, which is greater than that of the present invention.

Applicants have demonstrated criticality of the core deformation range of the present invention. If the core

deformation value is below the claimed range then the golf ball has a too hard shot feel with poor performance. And if the core deformation value is greater than the claimed range then the golf ball has a too soft shot feel with poor performance.

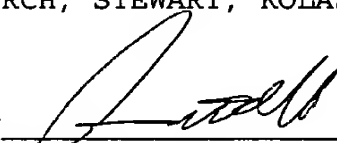
Applicants respectfully request that the attached Declaration be made part of the record as this Declaration supports the allowability of the claims.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fee required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By


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Attachment(s),

(Rev. 09/30/03)